

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

SOME RELIGIOUS BOOKS.

JAMES POTT & CO. bring out a new standard edition, in six volumes, of the Rev. Dr. Cunningham Geikie's "Hours With the Bible." The aim of this work, which has attained a wide and deserved popularity, is to throw the light of modern knowledge on the Scriptures. The present edition has been carefully revised throughout and largely rewritten, in order that the latest results of Biblical research might be embodied in it. The work is a most useful handbook of Biblical study.

With commendable promptness Macmillan & Co. issue "Verbum Domini," the Yale lectures on preaching which have just been delivered by the Rev. Robert F. Horton, of England. It is not possible to say anything more original about preaching, and Mr. Horton is wise enough not to attempt the impossible. He confines himself to an earnest and lucid exposition of what preaching should be. He is by no means the greatest of the Yale lecturers, nor, on the other hand, is he least. His lectures will neither thrill nor chill the general reader, if that omnivorous individual should pick them up.

Archdeacon Farrar's "First Book of Kings," which is the last volume of "The Expositor's Bible" series, is full of color and life. The Archdeacon is in substantial sympathy with the conclusions of the higher criticism of the Bible; and those who know him do not need to be told that he states his views with emphasis and with a picturesque wealth of rhetoric. Sometimes, indeed, his ardor leads him into overstatements. But, on the whole, the volume is worthy of high commendation. The period of the Jewish monarchy covered by the Book of Kings is singularly interesting, and Archdeacon Farrar throws upon it all the light that modern scholarship has put at his disposal.

Charles Scribner's Sons issue "The Place of Christ In Modern Theology," by the Rev. Dr. A. M. Fairbairn, of Mansfield College, Oxford. It is the most ambitious, and on the whole, the best, of all the works which Dr. Fairbairn has written. He does not claim to have said the last word on theology, because, in common with all modern religious thinkers, he does not believe that the last word on theology will ever be said. But he gives a clear and rational sketch of the theology that, in his opinion, squares with the Christian consciousness of the present time. Far from railing at the critical spirit which is so gladly modifying the traditional theology, he welcomes it, because, on account of it, "the Christian theologian can now stand face to face with the historical Christ, and conceive God as he conceived Him." The chapters devoted to the new historical criticism of the Bible are vivid and sympathetic. Whatever mistakes individual critics may make, the aggregate result of the historical method will be to present to the world the historic Christ, in place of the Christ of traditional theology. This is only to say that the historical method is trying, so far as it may, to make Christ real to the present generation. Nevertheless, Dr. Fairbairn does not believe that the modern doctrine of the Incarnation is the determining principle in theology. Nor does he hold with Luther, that the test of a standing or failing church is the doctrine of justification by faith. The core of Christianity, in his opinion, is the Fatherhood of God. "In the consciousness of Christ," he says, "the Father is at once primary and ultimate, the normative and necessary principles. . . . The Father is first and last, the cause and end of the Son's appearance and achievements. And so the conclusion is inevitable—if we attempt to construct a theology which shall be faithful to the consciousness of Christ, the Fatherhood must be the determinative principle of our thought. It is the architectonic idea; out of it the whole system must grow. With it all elements and deductions must be in harmony; all else is body; it alone is the informing soul." The volume reveals Dr. Fairbairn as a clear and vigorous thinker, who knows how to be bold without being too bold.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

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TIXELANA. A Tale of Ancient Mexico. By J. A. C. Tixelman. Olongo, pp. 199. (J. G. Cappell Company.)

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MANUAL OF GUARD DUTY. UNITED STATES ARMY. Approved January 1, 1892. 32mo, pp. 170. (D. Appleton & Co.)

THE INDEPENDENT TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES. A Manual of Organization and Influence. By David Kinley. A. B. 12mo, pp. 327. No. 1 of the Library of Economics and Politics. Compiled by Prof. E. H. Park. Ph. D. 12mo, pp. 100. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

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